[5th November 1935

Police

Need for the continuance of the Malabar Special Police Force.

* 443 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the Malabar Special Police Force was created;

(b) what the circumstances were that warranted the creation of the same; and

(c) whether there is still necessity to continue the Malabar Special Police?

A.—(a) & (b) The Malabar Special Police was first constituted in 1921 to supplement the operations of the Military in connexion with the Mappilla rebellion of 1920–21.

(c) Yes.

General

Declaration of Sri Rama Navami as a holiday for all Hindus.

* 444 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to declare Sri Rama Navami as a general holiday for all Hindus; and

(b) whether the term 'Vaishnavites' in relation to this holiday has been defined anywhere, and if so, what it is?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No, but the term is well understood and includes only those who worship Vishnu solely.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"Is the Hon. Member aware that Sri Rama Navami is observed as a day of fasting and prayer by all classes of the Hindu community whether they are Vaishnavites or not?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I request the Hon. Member to make enquiries, if necessary, from his Indian colleagues and from other agencies?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I do not think it necessary, Sir."

Irrigation

Restrictions on the user of the water in the Kalingarayan Channel, Erode taluk.

* 445 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) for how many months water is allowed in the Kalingarayan channel in Erode taluk of Coimbatore district and what the period is during which water is allowed in the channel,

(b) whether the authorities can prevent the ryots from taking water for their fields during the period of flow, and, if so, on what authority;

(c) whether it is a fact that the authorities have prevented the ryots from taking water even after the 1st June this year, and, if so, on what authority and circumstances;